

him the said Capt^e Fane, and that by Virtue of that Order he wou'd dispose of the command of that Ship; I told him that unless he cou'd shew me a Power from His Royal Highness to empower him to grant Commiss^{ns} the command of that Ship should go according to the Queen's Instructions to me, and his Royall Highness' Printed orders; Capt: Fane was very uneasy, but did not say much then; The next morning I was obliged to go to Amboy to meet the Assembly of New Jersey; At my return I found that Capt^e Fane had put his Lieuten^t in possession of the Triton's Prize, and had confin'd Wilcox on board, who was Lieutenant to Capt^e Miles, and ought to have the command of the Ship till the Prince's pleasure was known; Being informed that Wilcox was confin'd, I sent a written order for him to appear before me; this Order was delivered to him by one Huddleston who has made Oath of the Delivery of it, of which Affidavit I herewith send Your Lord^{sh} a copy, as likewise a Copy of an Affidavit made by Wilcox's wife who was present; By M^r Wilcock's Deposition you will see that Davis took my order from Wilcox, and presently afterwards forced him away from the Triton's Prize, and sent him on board of the Lowestaffe; The next morning I was inform'd of this Violence and sent for Capt^e Fane to come to me, that I might know the meaning of that proceeding, but he was gone from his Lodgings and was got on board the Lowestaffe where he has remained ever since. Now I must acquaint Your Lor^d that the Lowestaffe lay ready to sail for Barbadoes to convoy some Vessells that lay ready to sail for that Port, upon this I sent an order to Capt^e Fane in writing to send Lieuten^t Wilcocks on shoar to me; this order he refus'd to obey as you will perceive by a copy of an Affidavit made by the person who carried my order to him. The next day I sent him another positive order to send Lieuten^t Wilcocks on shoar: this order he likewise refus'd to obey, as will appear by the copy of another Affidavit I send your Lord^{sh}; The next day Capt^e Fane sailed to the Watering Place and carried Wilcocks with him, and I cou'd find no way to compel him to obey orders but firing upon the Queen's ship which I did not think proper to do, tho' it is certain I cou'd have sunk the Ship, for I have from the Fort and the Batteries of the Town Eight and Thirty Guns that bear upon one point at the same time, so that indeed no Ship can go out or come into the Harbour but must be tore to pieces; However I thought it more proper to forbear that, and to acquaint Your Lord^{sh} with this matter, and intreat you, as I do, that I may have some Instructions how to behave myself with respect to the commanders of the Queen's Ships, some of which think themselves under no manner of controul, but believe they may do what they please.—When first I came to this Province Capt^e Caldwell had his Station here, who then commanded Her Majesty's Ship Advice; That gentleman, by his good behaviour here, had the good word of every body in the place; Capt^e Stapleton who commanded Her Majesty's Ship Jersey had the same good luck, and if he had liv'd, I don't question but all things would have been easy. Capt^e Fane at his first coming to this place behaved himself very well, and I may say with truth that he has received more civility in this place than any Captain that ever came into this place, both from myself and from the merchants here; But now within these three or four months he has acted as if he had a mind to fall out with every body; As soon as I had left this city to go into New Jersey, he took away all the carpenters that were at work on Board of a Privateer which some of our Merchants had fitted out last year, and were fitting out again this year, under pretence that he wanted some work to be done on board the Lowestaffe; Now upon all other occasions he used to apply to me for Carpenters, and I always took care he had as many as he wanted, without hindring the Merchants' business; but in this case I believe the Design he had of oversetting the Voyage that ship was intended for, was the